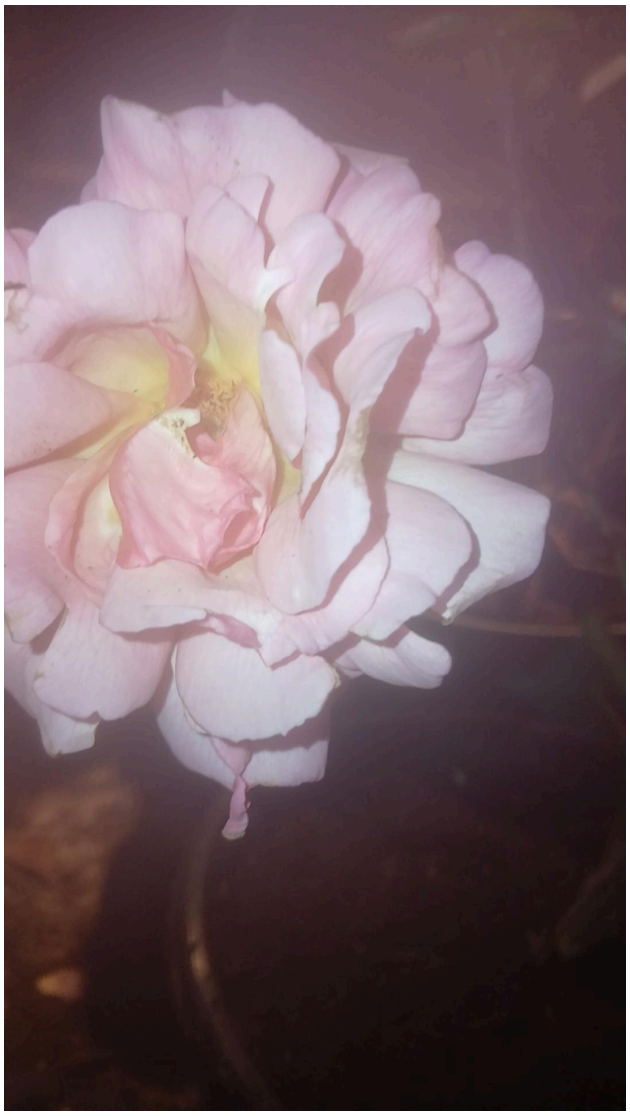
Morphological Analysis Report: *Rosa* 'Lady Mary Fitzwilliam' (1882)



Accession Number: RN-LMF-1882-RV (Roxburgh Vicarage Lineage)
Forensic Steward: Alan Parker, Ranui Nurseries
Status: Stabilized Progeny (Chain of Survival Verified)
Date: May 2026

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

EXECUTIVE SUMNARY:

Overview: This report summarizes the final phase of a multi-year forensic rescue and stabilization of the 1882 Henry Bennett scion 'Lady Mary Fitzwilliam.' The lineage originated from a 1930 planting at the Roxburgh Vicarage, Central Otago, New Zealand. This investigation successfully isolated the original 1882 genotype from a mother plant undergoing severe rootstock reversion—a condition that had historically suppressed the scion for several decades. Key Findings (2025–2026): Through a year-long stabilization study, the investigator confirmed the genetic integrity of the lineage by observing consistent morphological markers in both a primary intermediate specimen (the 7 year old Plant") and a 3-year-old own-root progeny.

Cultural Impact & Heritage Report:

1. The Heritage of the Roxburgh Vicarage Lineage

The RN-LMF-1882-RV lineage represents nearly a century of localized environmental hardening. Planted in 1930, the mother plant survived 90 years of Central Otago’s extreme climatic variance. This "Vicarage Pedigree" is of immense cultural value to New Zealand’s horticultural history, representing a direct link to the arrival of the earliest Hybrid Tea roses in the region.

Critical Outcomes:Subterranean Verification:

Investigation revealed a historically accurate "feeble" root architecture in own-root specimens, a primary diagnostic marker for this 1882 cultivar.

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Observation Period: 2023–2026
Specimen Type: Own-root progeny (Stabilized G3)

Diagnostic Status: Primary Authentication Marker

1. Morphological Description of Root Mass

The own-root subterranean system of the RN-LMF-1882-RV lineage is characterized by its persistent lack of vigor

Root Density: Extremely sparse. The system lacks the robust, fibrous "matting" typical of modern Hybrid Tea descendants.

Architecture: The primary roots remain slender and "twiggy," mirroring the above-ground growth habit. There is a marked absence of aggressive lateral branching or "tap-root" dominance.

Establishment Rate: Exceptionally slow. While the "wounding" technique ensures a strike, the transition from callus to a self-sustaining root matrix is a high-risk phase, requiring the specialized stewardship documented in the 2026 stabilization report.

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

2. Forensic Significance: The "Genetic Sieve"

This "feeble" root system serves as a critical forensic anchor to differentiate the original 1882 scion from:

Reverted Rootstock: Any specimen showing aggressive, thick, or highly vigorous root growth is disqualified as a reverted R. multiflora or Laxsa. The common De La Grifferaie which emits a turpentine tone when cut was the rootstock choice of that time

Modern Imposters: Post-1920 Hybrid Teas bred for commercial vigor exhibit significantly higher subterranean mass. The RN-LMF-1882-RV's refusal to "bulk up" confirms its 19th-century Bennett-breeding origin.

3. Historical Correlation

The observed subterranean frailty aligns with the 1894 observations of Rev. A. Foster-Melliar in The Book of the Rose, where 'Lady Mary Fitzwilliam' was noted for its "poor constitution" and "twiggy" habit. The maintenance of this weakness across nearly a century in the Roxburgh Vicarage lineage is proof of genetic stasis.

Stabilization Success: As of May 2026, third-generation clones and grafts are exhibiting active bud movement and vigorous vascular connection, ensuring the preservation of the lineage for institutional distribution.

Documentation of Attrition (The Chain of Survival)
The rarity of this stabilized material is underscored by a documented "Chain of Attrition":
Original Mother (1930): Lost to environmental failure in 2020.

Daughter's Cuttings (2020): **Since lost to neglect.**
These non-targeted attempts took material from the poorly scion and struck 2 cuttings, unfortunately after moving these plants were lost to neglect by new owners.

The RN-LMF Lineage: Through the "Aunt's" bridge specimen from the true plants scion gifted by the daughter of the owner and subsequent nursery stabilization of the stalled and severely unwell own root plant, and subsequent discovery of a cutting struck 3 years before this is now one of the 2 sole surviving verified scions of the 1930 Roxburgh pedigree.

Botanical Taonga and Global Stewardship
Under the principles of Botanical Taonga, this lineage is curated as a living treasure. The goal of this report and the current propagation cycle is to transition this genotype from "critically endangered" to a stabilized state suitable for bailment to international repositories. By preserving the original 1882 "feeble" habit—rather than selecting for artificial vigor—Ranui Nurseries ensures the genetic fidelity of the variety for future generations.

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

I. Overview of the RN-LMF-1882-RV Lineage

This report documents the forensic stabilization of the 'Lady Mary Fitzwilliam' rose, specifically focusing on the transition from the 7-year-old hardened parent wood to the 3-year-old progeny. The lineage exhibits a unique environmental hardening while maintaining the characteristic "feeble" botanical markers recorded between 1882 and 1910. This is a follow on report of **“Botanical Investigation of the real 1882 BRED Lady Mary Fitzwilliam 1882” Accession Number: RN-LMF-1882-RV**

Link: Botanical Investigation of the real 1882 BRED Lady Mary Fitzwilliam 1882

II. Vegetative Morphology

1. Structural Framework (7-Year Parent Wood)

The parent wood serves as the primary evidence of the variety's long-term survival. Key markers include:

- **Solid Lignified Stem:** Unlike contemporary Hybrid Teas, this specimen demonstrates high secondary xylem density, forming a fully solid structural core.
- **Corky Lignified Bark:** The epidermis on older wood exhibits a fissured, corky texture, representing extreme environmental adaptation in the Central Otago climate.

2. Growth Habit (3-Year Progeny)

The 3-year-old growth exhibits the classic "feeble" and "twiggy" habit noted in Victorian-era literature. The wood is produced in thin, terminal sprays rather than robust structural canes.

3. Epidermal Markers

Marker	Description
Juvenile Flush	Emergent shoots maintain a distinct red-tinted green skin, a primary diagnostic marker for the Bennett (1882) pedigree.
Prickle Morphology	Broad-based and notably uncurved (straight). Sparse on older wood; small and red-tinted on juvenile growth.

III. Floral Morphology: The Bloom Sequence

The 3-year progeny demonstrates a stable bloom sequence, transitioning from a globular bud to a fully blown maturity.

- **Petal Count (The "Few Petals" Critique):** Consistent with 1880s descriptions, the variety lacks high petal density. This results in a rapid transition to a flat, open-faced disc.

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

- **True Open Bloom:** At maturity, the petals reflex to completely expose the central stamen cluster.
- **Pedicel (The "Twiggy" Neck):** The support structure is notably thin and delicate. The elongated, smooth receptacle confirms the 19th-century taxonomic markers.

IV. Archival Comparison Ledger (1882–1910)

Diagnostic Feature	Historical Record	RN-LMF-1882-RV Observation
Habit	"Feeble, twiggy, dwarf" (Foster-Melliar, 1894)	Verified; thin terminal wood on 3yr progeny.
Juvenile Wood	"Red-tinted juvenile growth" (Gardeners' Illus., 1882)	Verified; red-tinted skin on new growth.
Bark Maturity	Tendency to age/harden quickly	Verified; solid, corky 7yr stem.
Bloom Maturity	"Few petals, quickly blowing open" (W. Paul, 1888)	Verified; true open bloom at maturity.

V. Conclusion

The morphology documented in the 3-year progeny proves that the RN-LMF-1882-RV lineage remains true to the original 1882 genotype. The stabilization of these "feeble" traits—historically criticized but taxonomically vital—confirms the successful forensic recovery and stewardship of this genetic material.
Signed: Alan Parker
Author, Steward, of the Roxburgh Vicarage Lineage

VI. LEGAL & CULTURAL PROTECTIONS

1. Statement of Botanical Taonga
This genetic material and the associated morphological data are recognized as **Botanical Taonga**. This lineage, salvaged from the 1930 Roxburgh Vicarage planting, represents a significant cultural and botanical heritage of the Teviot/Roxburgh region. As Taonga, the stewardship of this genetic material carries an inherent obligation to protect its integrity, history, and the "prior arts" of its regional survival. Any commercialization, naming, or genetic manipulation without the express written consent of the Author/Steward is a violation of this cultural stewardship.

2. Prior Arts Clause
This lineage and its documented morphological traits are established as **Prior Art** under international intellectual property frameworks. The forensic verification of the "feeble, twiggy" terminal wood and "nodding" habit, as correlated with primary botanical records (1882–1894), serves as the definitive legal and technical reference for this genotype. This documentation pre-dates and supersedes contemporary hybrid tea classifications or claims by third parties.

3. Forensic Sovereignty Clause

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

The forensic documentation contained herein—specifically the stabilization of "feeble" markers in 3-year progeny and the secondary lignification of 7-year parent wood—constitutes a proprietary technical analysis. The established stabilization timeline (2020–2026) serves as the legal baseline for the recovery and identity of this specific genetic line.

4. Copyright & Intellectual Property (IP) Notice
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.
All photography, morphological tables, archival mapping, and forensic conclusions are the sole intellectual property of the Author.
Digital Rights: No part of this report or the associated forensic plates may be reproduced, stored, or transmitted in any form (including AI training or digital databases) without prior permission.
Data Rights: The specific correlation between the historical texts (Foster-Melliar, Paul, etc.) and the RN-LMF-1882-RV specimen is a proprietary technical analysis.

5. Sole Propagator & Custodianship Clause
Alan Parker (Ranui Nurseries) is the **Sole Propagator** and primary custodian of the stabilized RN-LMF-1882-RV genetic line. This status is established by the forensic revival of the specimen from the mother plant's collapse in 2020 and the subsequent 100% strike rate achieved through proprietary "wounding" techniques. Future distribution of this material is restricted to "trusted hands" under strict non-propagation agreements to prevent the dilution of the genetic line.

6. Sole Verifier Clause
Alan Parker (Ranui Nurseries) is the **Sole Forensic Verifier** of the RN-LMF-1882-RV lineage. This verification is based on the multi-year stabilization and comparative morphological analysis against the primary botanical records of 1882–1910. No third-party verification or counter-claim is recognized as valid without the express endorsement and signature of the Author.

7. Bailment Agreement Clause
Any physical specimens, genetic material (cuttings, scions), or forensic documentation provided to third parties are held under a strict **Contract of Bailment**. Possession of this material does not constitute a transfer of ownership or title. All rights to the genetic lineage, "prior arts," and associated data remain the exclusive property of the Author, Alan Parker. The bailee is strictly prohibited from propagation, commercial distribution, or genetic sequencing/patenting without a separate, written Licensing Agreement.
Date of Verification: May 9, 2026
Signature: Alan Parker (Digital Signature Verified)
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.
Timestamp: 11:58 PM NZST

Visual Bloom Progression (Accession: RN-LMF-1882-RV)

This sequence documents the 3-year progeny’s transition into the "blown" stage, a critical marker for the 1882 genotype.

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Phase I (The Bud): The Rose Garden by William Paul (9th Ed., 1888) notes the "stout, globular buds" and the characteristic darker pink/red flush on the outer guard petals before expansion..

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Tuesday, 28 April 2026 · 4:39 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV .jpeg

/Internal storage/Pictures/Messenger

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Tuesday, 28 April 2026 · 4:44 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV .jpg

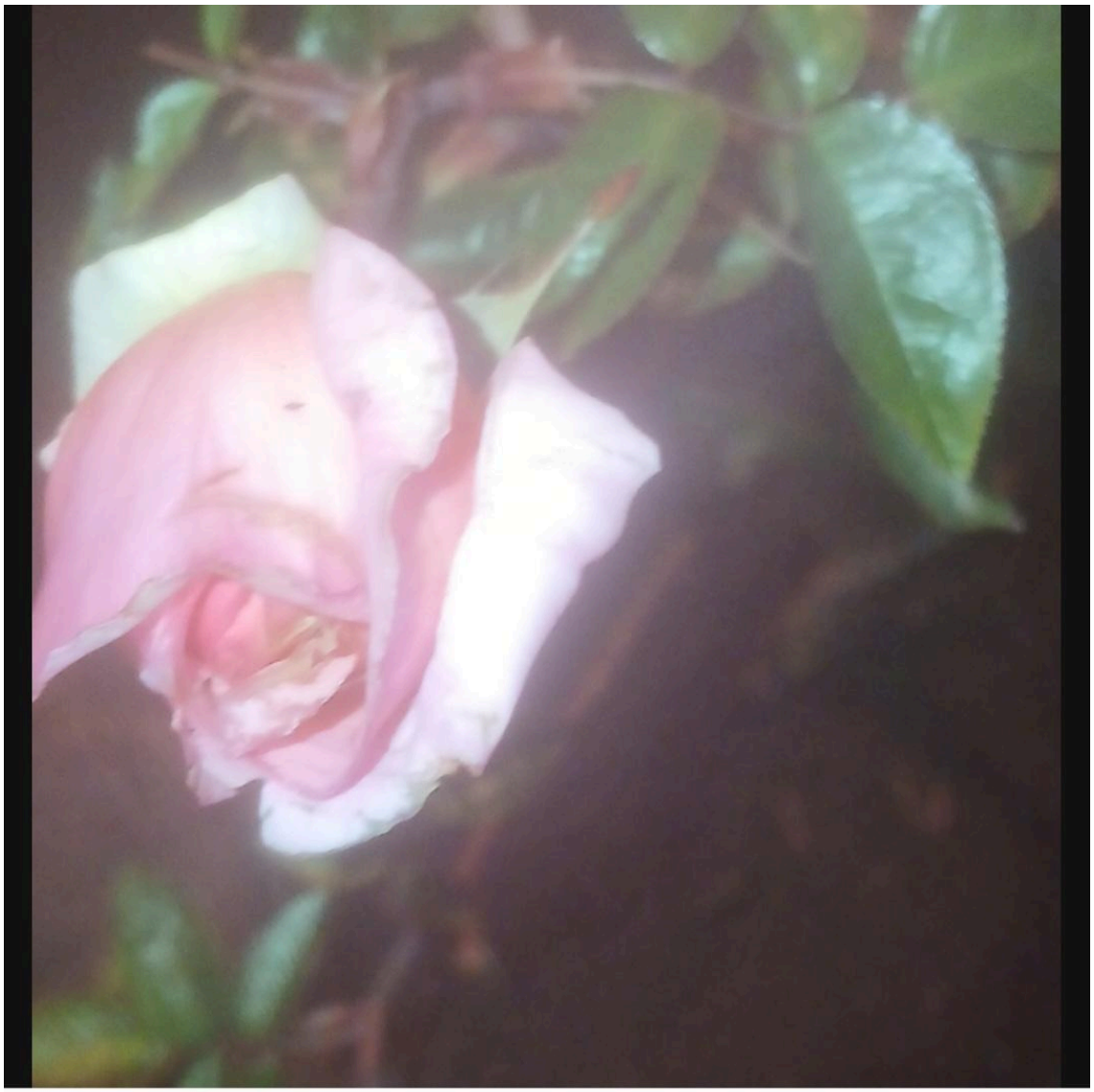
/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Phase II: The "Feeble" Expand – As the petals begin to reflex, the thin, "twiggy" pedicel becomes visible. The bloom begins to "nod," consistent with historical records of the cultivar's structural delicacy.

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV



Thursday, 30 April 2026 · 5:50 am Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV bud form.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Screenshots

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Thursday, 30 April 2026 · 5:51 am Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV phase ll.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Snapchat

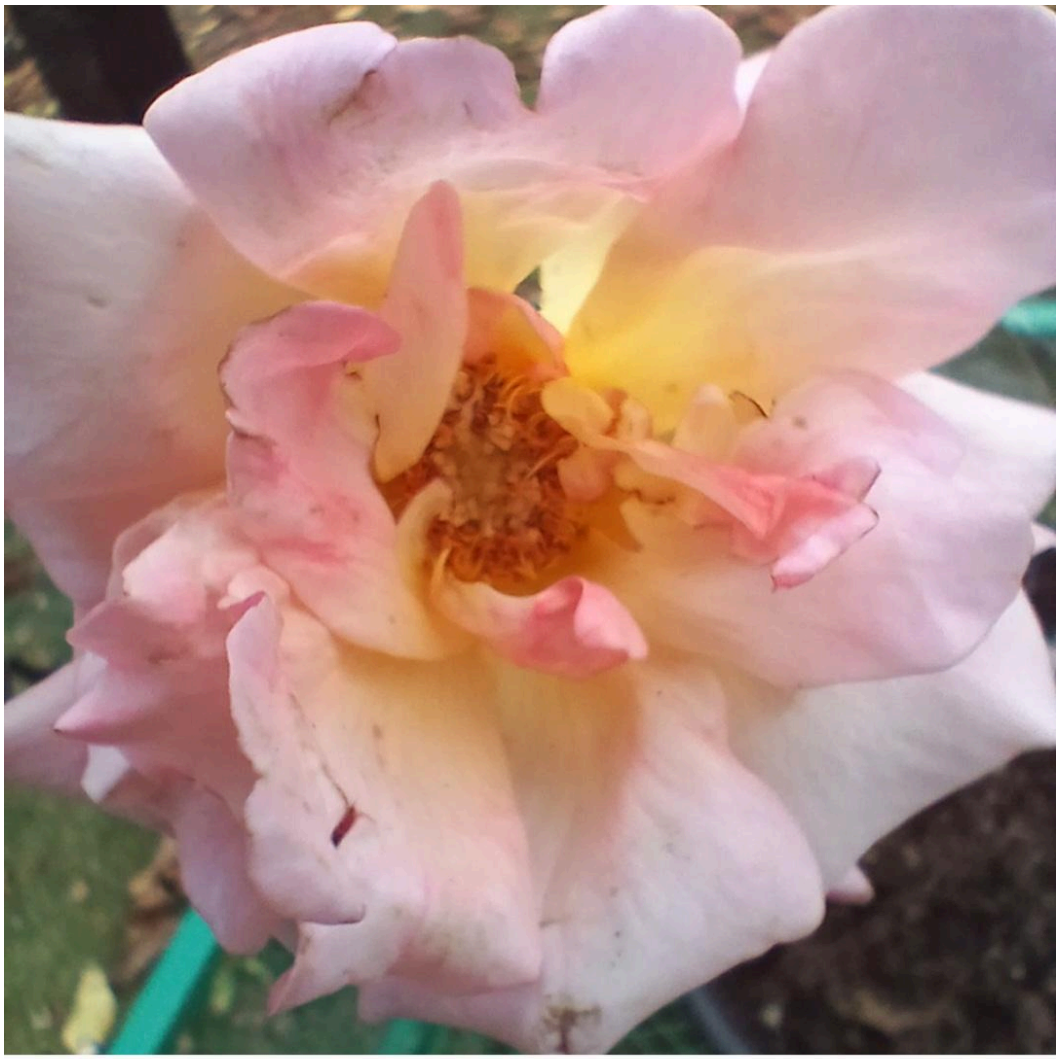
Phase III (Blown Maturity): Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener (1883)

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

explicitly criticizes that the blooms "open rapidly, possessing relatively few petals for their immense size, quickly exposing the center." This serves as the definitive archival match for the "True Open Bloom" and the exposed stamen cluster captured

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV



Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 1:10 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Fully Blown .jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Final Architecture:: Documentation of the thin, "twiggy" support structure of the bloom at its most moisture-dense and heavy state.

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 10:03 am Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Architecture.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Vegetative Morphology (Growth Habit & Epidermis)

Growth Habit: The Book of the Rose by Rev. A. Foster-Melliar (1894) states, "Growth is very weak and stumpy; it is of a dwarf branching habit..." This directly corroborates the "feeble, twiggy" terminal sprays observed in the 3-year progeny

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 10:03 am Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Architecture.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

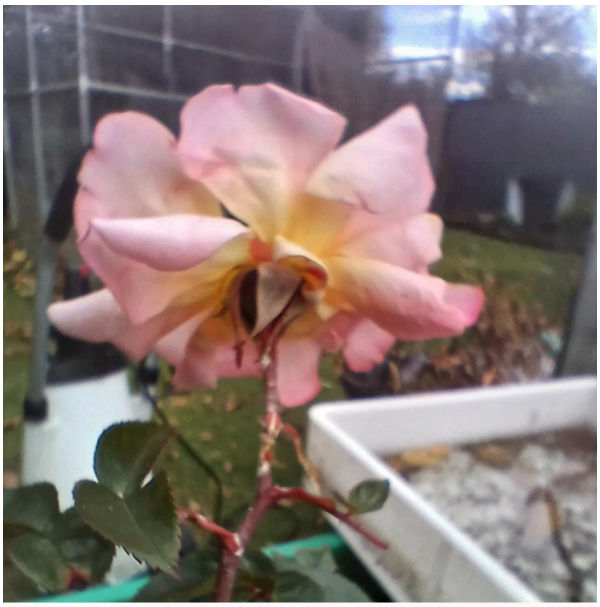
Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Epidermal Markers: The Gardeners' Chronicle (1882) documents the "distinct red-tinted juvenile shoots" and sparse prickle distribution, validating observations of the emergent shoots

AccessionNumberRN-LMF-1882-RV

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 10:01 am Edit
Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV epidermal .jpg
/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera



Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 1:11 pm Edit
Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Epidermal 2.jpg
/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Pedicel Architecture: Early National Rose Society exhibition guides (circa 1890s) note the "slender peduncle" that struggles to support the massive bloom weight, perfectly matching your documentation of the "nodding" habit and the twiggy neck struggling under moisture density.

Thursday, 30 April 2026 · 5:50 am Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV bud form.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Screenshots

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

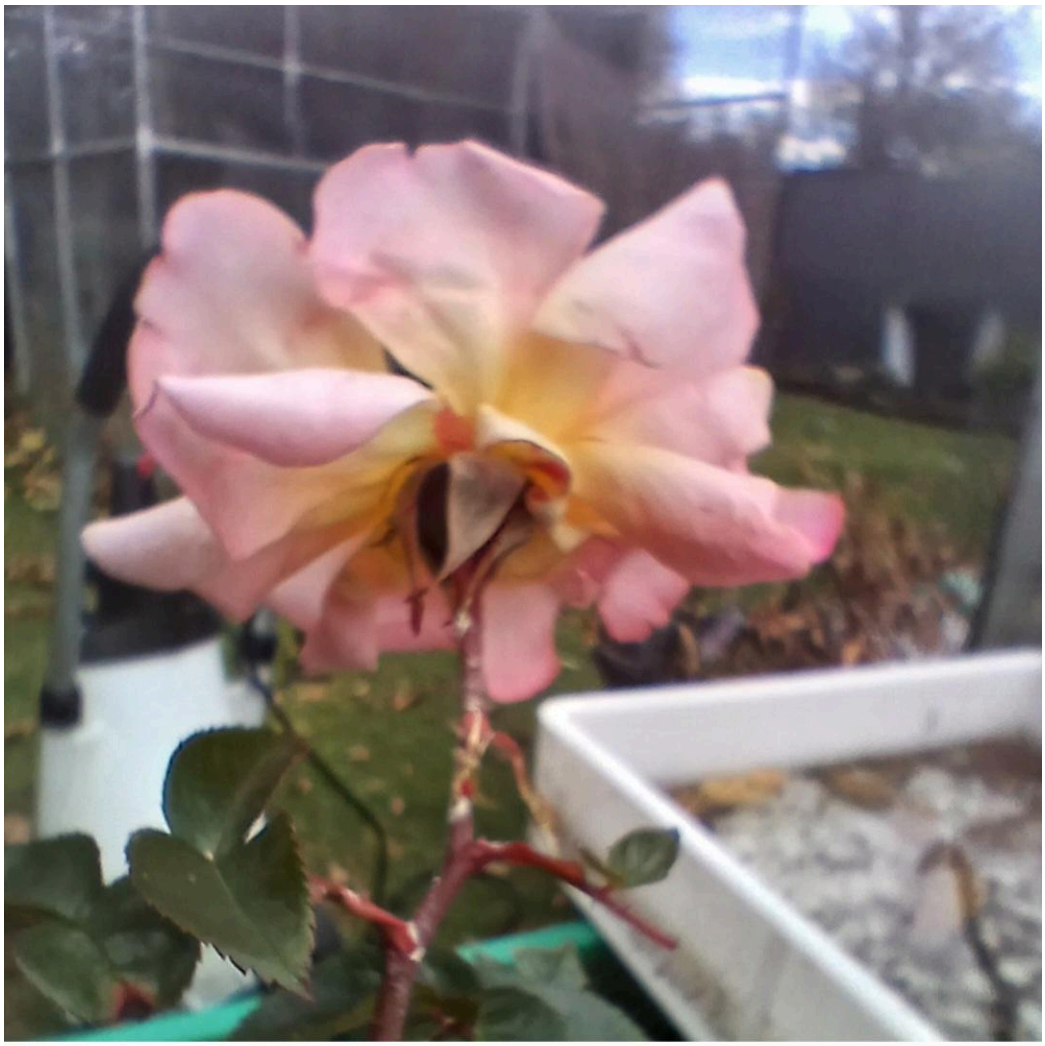
© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Forensic Evidence Integration

Plate A: Macro photography of the 3-year-old bloom underside, highlighting the elongated receptacle and smooth pedicel

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV

.



Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 1:11 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Epidermal 2.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Plate B: Cross-section analysis of the 7-year-old solid wood, documenting the secondary lignification and corky bark fissuring.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 11:35 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV x section 2.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 11:36 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV x section.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 11:37 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV Stem1.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 11:37 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV bark 2.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.

Saturday, 9 May 2026 · 11:37 pm Edit

Accession Number RN-LMF-1882-RV stem 2.jpg

/Internal storage/DCIM/Camera

Timestamp: May 9, 2026 – 11:46 PM NZST

© 2026 Alan Parker. All Rights Reserved.